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# *Mikania oreophila* (Asteraceae, Eupatorieae), a New Species from Southern Brazil

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**ABSTRACT.** *Mikania oreophila*, a new species of Asteraceae (Eupatorieae) from the southern Brazilian highlands, is described and illustrated. The new species is related to *M. paranensis*, from which it differs by the thinly chartaceous and somewhat basally attenuate leaves and subinvolucral bracts placed at the base of the peduncles.

**RESUMEN.** Se describe e ilustra *Mikania oreophila*, una nueva especie de Asteraceae (Eupatorieae) de las montañas del sur de Brasil. La nueva especie está emparentada con *M. paranensis*, de la cual se diferencia por sus hojas finamente cartáceas y algo atenuadas en la base y por las brácteas subinvolucrales dispuestas en la base de los pedúnculos.

**Key words:** Asteraceae, Brazil, Eupatorieae, *Mikania*.

*Mikania* Willdenow is a genus in Asteraceae with about 430 species distributed mainly in the tropical regions, mostly in South America (Holmes, 1995). There are about 171 species recorded for Brazil (King & Robinson, 1987). As part of a study of the genus in southern Brazil, an undescribed species came to our attention and is described herein as new.

***Mikania oreophila*** M. R. Ritter & Miotto, sp. nov.

**TYPE:** Brazil. Rio Grande do Sul: São Francisco de Paula, Alpes de São Francisco, 18 Mar. 2000, M. R. Ritter & S. L. de Carvalho Leite 1110 (holotype, ICN; isotypes, FLOR, MBM, MO). Figure 1.

Suffrutices volubiles, breviter puberuli vel pubescentes; folia opposita, sine stipulis, aliquando linea trichomatum interpetiolari, hastata, decurrentia, superficiebus ambabus cum trichomatibus et glandulis sparsis, trinerviis. Capituli pedunculati, pilosi, compositi in inflorescentiis paniculiformibus. Bractea subinvolucrata lineari-lanceolata posita in base pedunculi et rare paulo superiore. Bractee involucratae elliptico-lanceolatae. Pappus cum circiter 40 setis. Cypselae glabrae.

Twining lianas; stems terete, fistulose with age, striate, puberulent to pubescent with simple pluricellular uniseriate trichomes up to 1.5 mm long.

Leaves simple, opposite, petiolate, estipulate; petioles 1.3–2.5 cm long, occasionally with a row of trichomes between them; blade thinly chartaceous, triplinerved, (6)6.5–9 cm long, (2.5)3.5–6(6.3) cm wide, base attenuate, apex long-acuminate, margins with up to six pairs of teeth, ciliate, both surfaces with trichomes like those on the stems and sparse sessile glands, more densely pubescent abaxially, especially so on veins. Capitulescence terminal or axillary, paniculate, branches terete. Capitula up to 7.5 mm tall, peduncles 1–3.5 mm long, densely pubescent; subinvolucral bract linear-lanceolate, 1.5–2(2.5) mm long, 0.4–0.7 mm wide, located at the base of the peduncle or occasionally a little more distal in capitula borne on short peduncles, margins entire, ciliate, apex long-acuminate, abaxially puberulent, sometimes sparsely glandular; involucral bracts elliptic-lanceolate, (2.5)3–4 mm long, 0.8–1 mm wide, margins entire, apically acuminate, ciliate, pubescent to puberulent, sometimes glandular. Corollas discoid, tube ca. 0.5–0.8 mm long, limb ca. 1.8–2.5 mm long, lobes ca. 0.4–0.5 mm long, glandular. Cypselae brownish, 2.5–3.5 mm long, glabrous, weakly glandular. Pappus with ca. 40 bristles, 3–4 mm long, with short stiff cells, whitish, sometimes pink-tinged.

**Habitat and distribution.** *Mikania oreophila* thrives in borders of woods in the highlands from the State of Rio Grande do Sul to the Serra do Mar in Paraná, reaching elevations of up to 1300 m. It was also collected in the State of São Paulo at elevations of 750–870 m, but with typical climatic characteristics of the highland “campos,” with humid woods with frequent fogs and lower night temperatures.

**Phenology.** Flowering and fruiting plants were collected from February to May.

**Etymology.** The epithet is derived from the Greek words oros (mountain) and philos (loving), in allusion to the montane habitat of the species.

*Mikania oreophila* is similar to *Mikania paranensis*, from which it is set apart by the pilose, thin-



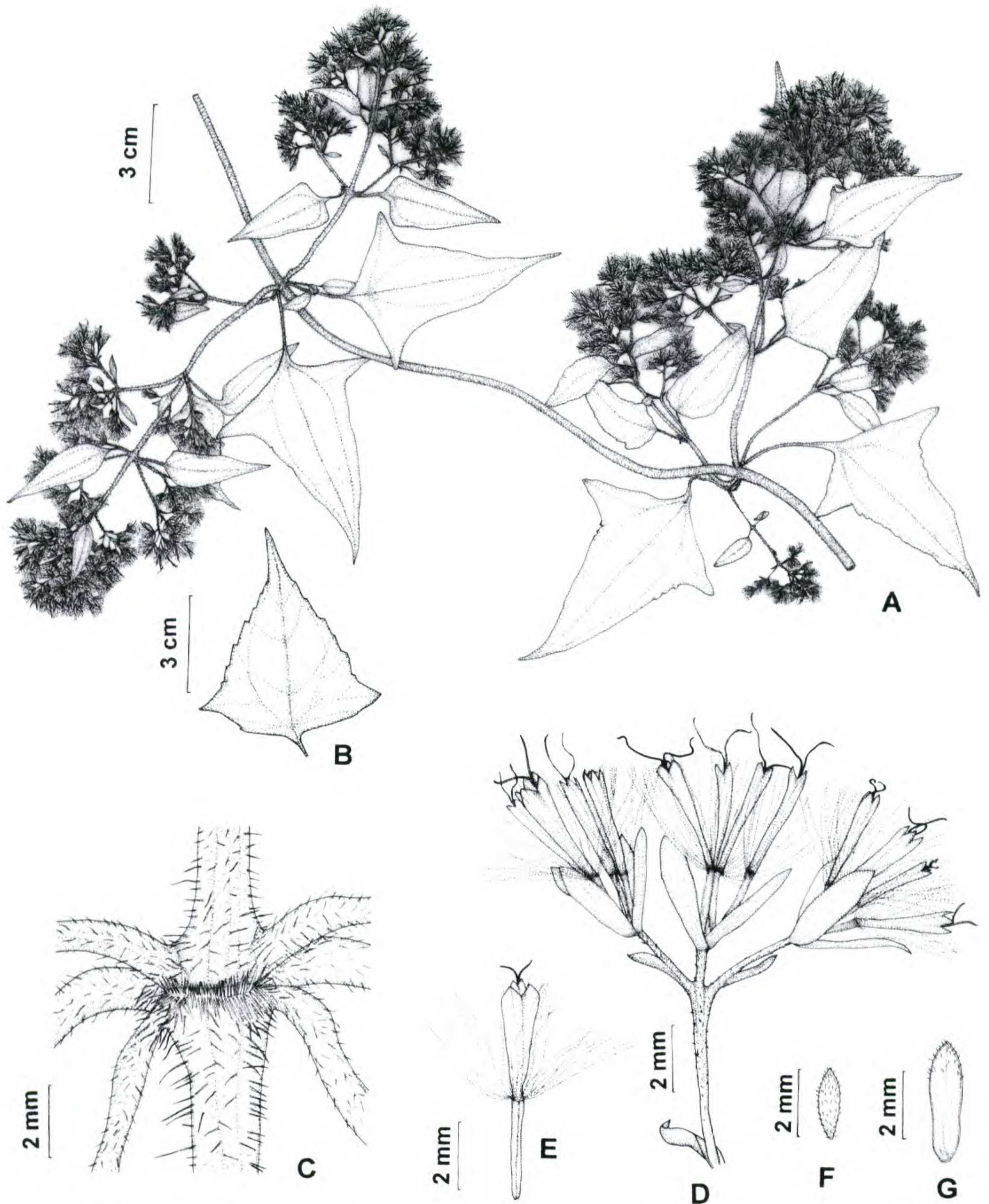


Figure 1. *Mikania oreophila* M. R. Ritter & Miotto. —A. Flowering branch. —B. Leaf. —C. Detail of stem node showing row of trichomes. —D. Capitula. —E. Floret. —F. Subinvolucral bract. —G. Involucral bract. (A, C–G: M. R. Ritter & S. L. de Carvalho Leite 1110, from holotype in ICN; B: D. B. Falkenberg 7168, from paratype in FLOR.)

ly chartaceous, and basally attenuate leaves, and by the subinvolucral bracts located at the base of the peduncles, or sometimes more distal, and the corolla tube uniformly widened from base to apex. In *M. paranensis* the leaves are glabrous, chartaceous to coriaceous, the blades are triangular and

not basally attenuate, the subinvolucral bracts are placed at the base of the capitula, and the corolla is clearly divided into a narrow proximal half and a wider distal one. *Mikania oreophila* may also be confused with *M. chlorolepis* Baker, but in the latter species the leaves are longer, up to 16 cm long,



and the subinvolucral bracts are located at the base of the capitula; moreover, *M. chlorolepis* is not known to occur in montane habitats in southern Brazil.

According to the sectional classification proposed by Holmes (1996), *Mikania oreophila* should be assigned to section *Summikania* due to its basal subinvolucral bracts, although the two species with which it is compared are better placed in section *Mikania* since they bear apical subinvolucral bracts; another character used by Holmes, the direction of the capitulescence maturation, could not be stated confidently in either species—indeed, in one specimen of *M. paranensis* where maturation was clearly verifiable (*Ritter 1003*, ICN 115651) it occurred racemosely, in a way contrary to the pattern of section *Mikania* and expected to be found in section *Summikania*. So, if further investigation proves such overlap of characters, it will be necessary to look for some additional ones to reinforce the useful sectional classification of Holmes.

*Paratypes.* BRAZIL. **Paraná:** Guaratuba, serra de Araçatuba, morro dos Perdidos, 18 Feb. 1998, *H. M. Fernandes & E. P. Santos 69* (ICN), 12 Mar. 1999, *L. C. Cândido & M. Hassegawa 12* (UPCB), 8 Apr. 2000, *E. Barbosa & O. S. Ribas 419* (MBM), 8 Apr. 2000, *E. Barbosa & O. S. Ribas 432* (MBM); Nova Galícia, 18 Feb. 1916, *P. Dusén 17701* (NY, S). **Rio Grande do Sul:** Cambará do Sul, em direção a São José dos Ausentes, a 19 km de entroncamento para Retiro, 9 May 2000, *M. R. Ritter 1162* (ICN); a 17 km de Fortaleza dos Aparados

para Cambará do Sul, 23 Mar. 1999, *M. R. Ritter 1007* (ICN), *M. R. Ritter 1008* (ICN); fazenda Velha, Celulose Cambará, 5 Apr. 1994, *N. Silveira & C. Mansan 11924* (HAS, ICN); Ouro Verde, 10 Apr. 1995, *T. Lewinson, PIC 95176* (ICN). **Santa Catarina:** Urubici, alto da serra do Corvo Branco, acesso na SC 439, junto ao corte no morro, 24 Feb. 1995, *D. B. Falkenberg 7168* (FLOR); trilha para o topo da serra do Corvo Branco, no alto da SC 439, junto ao corte no morro, 28 Mar. 1995, *D. B. Falkenberg 7375* (FLOR). **São Paulo:** São Paulo, distrito de Marsilac, Parque Estadual da Serra do Mar, Núcleo Curucutu, 27 Mar. 1996, *R. J. F. Garcia, G. M. P. Ferreira & C. M. A. Pimentel 772* (PMSP, SPF).

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